

August 2002

IMPORT HEALTH REQUIREMENTS OF ARGENTINA FOR HORSES EXPORTED FROM THE UNITED STATES

Horses must be accompanied by a U.S. Origin Health Certificate issued by a veterinarian authorized by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and endorsed by a Veterinary Services (VS) veterinarian. The certificate must provide the names and addresses of the consignor and consignee, the means of transport, the final destination in Argentina, and complete identification of the animals. In addition, the certificate must include the following certification statements and the results of the indicated testing:

CERTIFICATION STATEMENTS

1. The United States is free of African horse sickness, contagious equine metritis, dourine, equine pox, glanders, Japanese encephalitis, melioidosis, and Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis.
2. The horse(s) come from an establishment that is not under quarantine for health reasons and on which the following diseases have not been reported during the 60 days immediately prior to export: Eastern and Western equine encephalomyelitis, equine infectious anemia, equine influenza (Type A), equine rhinopneumonitis, epizootic lymphangitis, equine viral arteritis, rabies, mange, piroplasmosis, *Salmonella abortus equi*, surra (*T. evansi*), vesicular coital exanthema, vesicular stomatitis, and West Nile virus.
3. At the time of export, the horse(s) will have been under the supervision of an authorized (accredited or USDA) veterinarian since the initiation of required testing and will not have been in contact with any animals of a different (lesser) health status for the time necessary for the health certification process.
4. The horse(s) does (do) not originate nor proceed from, and, during the 30 days prior to export, has (have) not stayed in, a State affected by West Nile virus.

OR

The horse(s) have been maintained in an establishment in the center of an area of 30 km radius in which during the preceding 30 days no cases of West Nile virus have been diagnosed in any susceptible species, the horses were qualified on the basis of negative test results for the detection of IgM antibodies, the horses were maintained in isolation within a facility with effective control measures for the principal vector species, and the horse(s) remain with no symptoms of encephalitis up to the date of embarkation.

5. Horses vaccinated against West Nile virus only: The horse(s) _____ identified uniquely as above was (were) vaccinated against West Nile virus with a USDA-approved killed-virus vaccine, on _____ (date) and

_____ (date) using product vaccine lot _____
(manufacturer, lot), which is in accordance with recommended vaccination procedures.

6. The horse(s) was (were) vaccinated against Eastern and Western equine encephalomyelitis on _____ with _____, a USDA-licensed, killed virus vaccine.
 7. The horse(s) was (were) vaccinated against equine influenza on _____ with _____, a USDA-licensed, killed virus vaccine.
 8. The horse(s) was (were) vaccinated against equine rhinopneumonitis on _____ with _____, a USDA-licensed, killed-virus vaccine.
- [Vaccinations for equine influenza, equine rhinopneumonitis, Eastern and Western equine encephalomyelitis, must occur between 15 and 30 days prior to export.]
9. Stallions vaccinated against equine viral arteritis only: The horse(s) was (were) vaccinated against equine viral arteritis on _____ with _____, a USDA-licensed vaccine.
 10. The horse(s) was (were) treated for internal and external parasites on _____ (date), which is within 30 days prior to export, with _____, (a) product(s) approved in the United States for such use.

TEST REQUIREMENTS

Within 30 days prior to export, except as noted, the horse(s) must be tested as prescribed below and found negative:

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| 1. Equine infectious anemia: | Agar-gel immunodiffusion (Coggins) test. |
| 2. Equine piroplasmiasis: | Complement fixation test at a 1:5 dilution for <i>Babesia caballi</i> and <i>Babesia equi</i> . |
| 3. Vesicular stomatitis: | For both Indiana and New Jersey serotypes, serum neutralization test or ELISA. |
| 4. West Nile virus: | IgM capture ELISA, at least 10 days prior to embarkation. |

EMBARKATION CERTIFICATION

At the port of embarkation, a VS port veterinarian must attach to the U.S Origin Health Certificate a completed VS Form 17-37, Certificate of Inspection of Export Animals, showing:

1. The name and address of the consignor.
2. The name and address of the consignee.
3. The number and species of animals to be shipped.
4. A statement that the animals have been given a careful veterinary inspection at the port of embarkation and found free of evidence of communicable disease and exposure thereto within 24 hours of exportation.

OTHER INFORMATION

1. Argentina considers the health certificate to be valid for 10 days from the date of issue.
2. With respect to West Nile virus, horses that have been vaccinated must be clearly identified and have this vaccination mentioned on the official immunization or health certificate.
3. West Nile virus provisions also apply to horses returning to Argentina following temporary entry to the United States.
4. With respect to equine viral arteritis, stallions that have been vaccinated must have this vaccination mentioned on the official immunization or health certificate.
5. Horses will be quarantined upon arrival in Argentina (Lazareto Cuarentenario Capital) during the time necessary for retesting, including that for encephalitis and West Nile virus, as well as agent incubation period for any perceived disease risks.